



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
THE WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

Κυριακή 22η Σεπτεμβρίου 2019

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Α΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ

Αποσ: Β΄ Κορινθίου 1:21-2:4

Ευαγγ: Λουκα 5: 1-11

1st Sunday of Luke

Today's Readings

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

BECOME FISHERS OF MEN

In today's Gospel lesson, St. Luke tells of the call of the disciples to follow him and become fishers of men. He had begun his ministry in Galilee teaching the scriptures to those in the synagogues and performing healing miracles. The people of Galilee thirsted to hear the words of Jesus. They filled the shore of Lake Gennesaret as soon as they learned that Jesus was there, and they longed to see Him and hear Him. His word sweetened their hearts and gave peace, strength and enlightenment. They had never heard such words before! Even His enemies, the guards of the Hebrew high priests, after being sent to seize Jesus, confessed: "No man ever spoke like this Man" (John 7:46). And instead of arresting Jesus, they were fascinated and listened to him! But due to the pressing of the crowds, He asked to get into Simon (Peter)'s fishing-boat, so His listeners could see Him better, and speak to them.

Upon speaking to the multitudes, Jesus asked Simon (Peter) to launch out into the deep and, "let down your nets for a catch." Let us pause and consider what Jesus was asking Simon (Peter) to do here. An experienced fisherman like Peter knew that fish were not caught in the day time! The other fishermen would maybe mock them or laugh when they see them throw their nets out for fishing at that time. After all, last night he could not catch any fish, so he expects a catch now? But Peter willingly **obeyed** Christ! And as an experienced fisherman, Simon (Peter)'s **obedience** to Jesus is of great significance. Let us still admire the multitude of fish caught in such a short time, and at that time of day, so that not only was Peter's boat filled, but the other Zebedee boat as well, to the point where they were in danger of sinking.

Peter's reaction was remarkable when he saw so many fish, as it was something he had never seen before. Instead of expressing his thanks to the Lord for such a great blessing, he says to Him: Please get out of my boat. What kind of strange behavior is that? Why does Peter do this? It becomes clear in his words: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" He felt his sinfulness, and in humility declared that he was not worthy to have on his simple boat the great honor of the Lord's presence. As the Evangelist Luke explains: "For he-Peter- and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken".

All of this is admirable, and among other things, they teach us something very important for our lives. Peter and his associates, when they struggled alone all night, thought they were experienced fishermen,

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working under the best conditions for fishing and yet had no success. But when they had Christ with them and **obeyed** His words, despite all of the unfavorable conditions for fishing, they had success beyond their imagination and they realized the power of God! But those who follow in Christ's example respect and obey His will. Does that say something to us too? Unfortunately, so many of us have been influenced by a materialist spirit and do not respect and follow the spiritual and moral values of the Gospel. But becoming a disciple is completely different. There is great cost involved to becoming a disciple. It may cost everything you have, everything you are, everything you own. But the results are well worth it. The reward far outweighs the cost. This is what Simon (Peter) and his companions realized, and this is why they left everything and followed Christ. They were already believers. But now Jesus was calling them to much more. Jesus was calling them to become a disciple, and they answered the call with a resounding YES! Will we answer this call?

My brothers and sisters, let us always have in front of our eyes the image of Jesus with Peter and the two boats full of fish, and remember this: If we have Christ with us and will work according to His words, we will enjoy blessings that no one else can give us.

ATTENTION!!!

Parents with Young Adults in College

In our ongoing mission to keep in touch and continue building a relationship with our Young Adults, we are asking for some information. If you have a son or daughter who is going away to college, please let us know the school they are attending, their school mailing address and email address. If your son or daughter may be commuting or staying local, please let us know this as well. Please email Fr. Chris at cpavro@aol.com or contact the main office at (708) 974-3400 with the information.

DOES YOUR COMPANY OFFER MATCHING GIFTS?

Many companies offer matching gifts to their employee's donations, if your business does, please contact Fr. Tom for more information or to prepare any paperwork that is required.

Learn Greek At Koraes

Afternoon Greek School Begins
October 1

Classes are held from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays
October – April

For more information:

(708) 974-3402

or

www.koraes.org

Please call the Church Office at
(708) 974-3400

With any address, phone number
Or e-mail changes

so that we can keep you informed of
Church Services and other events.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Let us all do our Best for Our Church...

The needs of our Parish are many!
Please make your commitment now
to our Stewardship 2019 Campaign.

**You may do so in person,
by mail or online at:
www.stconstantinehelen.org**

Α΄ Κυριακή Λουκά (Λουκ. 5, 1-11)

Ἡ σημερινή εὐαγγελική περικοπή μᾶς περιγράφει μία ἀπὸ τὶς ὠραιότερες σκηνές, τὶς ὁποῖες διηγοῦνται τὰ ἱερὰ Εὐαγγέλια. Ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς ἔχει ἤδη ἀρχίσει τὴ δημόσια δράση Του, καὶ εὐρίσκεται σὲ μία ἀκρογιαλιὰ τῆς λίμνης Γεννησαρέτ.

Τῆς λίμνης, ποὺ τόσες φορές διέπλευσε, κοντὰ στὴν ὁποία τόσα θαύματα ἐνήργησε, τόσες φορές προσευχήθηκε. Τῆς λίμνης, ἀπὸ τοὺς ψαράδες τῆς ὁποίας ἀλίευσε, ἐξέλεξε, ὅπως σήμερα ἀκούσαμε, τοὺς πρώτους μαθητὲς Του. Ἐκεῖ λοιπὸν βλέπει δύο ψαροκάϊκα, ποὺ ἀνῆκαν τὸ ἓνα στὴν οἰκογένεια τοῦ Σίμωνα, τοῦ ἀποστόλου Πέτρου δηλαδή καὶ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ του Ἀνδρέα, καὶ τὸ ἄλλο στὸν Ζεβεδαῖο καὶ στοὺς υἱοὺς του Ἰάκωβο καὶ Ἰωάννη, ποὺ ἦσαν συνεργάτες, συντάιροι θὰ λέγαμε σήμερα, μεταξύ τους. Κι ἐπειδὴ μαζεύτηκε ἐκεῖ πολὺς κόσμος, νὰ ἀκούσουν τὰ θεῖα λόγια, τὰ «ρήματα ζωῆς αἰωνίου» τοῦ ἁγίου Διδασκάλου, ἀλλὰ κι ἐπειδὴ σὲ τέτοιες περιπτώσεις ἦσαν μαζεμένοι καὶ πολλοὶ ἄρρωστοι, ποὺ ζητοῦσαν τὴν ἰατρία ἀπὸ τὸν Χριστό, σὲ σημεῖο ποὺ πέφτανε ἐπάνω του νὰ τὸν ἀγγίξουν, ὥστε νὰ θεραπευτοῦν, τί κάνει ὁ Κύριος; Ἀνεβαίνει στὸ ἓνα ἀπὸ τὰ δύο, αὐτὸ τοῦ Σίμωνα, καὶ τὸν παρακαλεῖ νὰ τὸ ξανοίξει λίγο ἀπὸ τὸ μουράγιο.

Καὶ ἀπὸ ἐκεῖ, καθισμένος στὴν ἄκρη, σὰν ἀπὸ ἄλλο ἄμβωνα, διδάσκει τὰ πλήθη, ποὺ εἶχαν καθήσει στὴν ἀμμουδιά καὶ ἀκούγανε μὲ πόθο τὰ ἀθάνατα ἐκεῖνα λόγια. Κι ἐκεῖ, σ' αὐτὸ τὸν ψαρότοπο, μέσα σὲ ψαρόβαρκα, ὁ μέγας ἀλιέας τῶν ψυχῶν, μέσα στὴ θάλασσα τῆς Τιβεριάδας ἀγκιστρεύει, ἀλιεῦει τὶς ψυχὲς τῶν λογικῶν ἰχθύων, ποὺ βρίσκονταν ἔξω ἀπὸ τὴ θάλασσα. Ἐπειδὴ ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ, σ' ὄσους τὸν ἀκοῦνε μὲ πόθο καὶ τὸν ἐφαρμόζουν μὲ συνέπεια, τοὺς ἐξάγει ἀπὸ τὴν ἀλμυρὴ θάλασσα τῆς ἀπιστίας, τῶν παθῶν καὶ τῆς ἀμαρτίας καὶ τοὺς μεταφέρει στὸ γαληνὸ λιμάνι τῆς σωτηρίας.

Ἀπευθύνεται σὲ ὅλο τὸν κόσμο ἢ διδασκαλία του, τὴν ὁποία σφραγίζει ἡ τελειότητα, ἓνα ἀξεπέραστο κάλλος. Καὶ ἀπευθύνεται σὲ ὅλους τοὺς ἀνθρώπους, κάθε ἐποχῆς, καὶ ἱκανοποιεῖ τὸ βαθύτερο εἶναι κάθε ἀνθρώπινης ψυχῆς. Γι' αὐτὸ καὶ στὸ σύμβολο τῆς Πίστεως ὁμολογοῦμε: «Πιστεύω... εἰς μίαν, ἁγίαν, καθολικὴν καὶ ἀποστολικὴν Ἐκκλησίαν.» Ἡ πίστις μας εἶναι ὄντως καθολικὴ, γιατί περιλαμβάνει τὴν καθόλου, ὀλόκληρη τὴν ἀλήθεια, καὶ ἀπευθύνεται στὸν καθόλου, ὀλόκληρο τὸν κόσμο.

Ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἀπεύθυνε δύο ἐντολὲς στοὺς τέσσερις ἐκείνους ἀπλοϊκοὺς ψαράδες τῆς Γαλιλαίας. Ἡ πρώτη, νὰ ξαναρίξουν τὰ δίκτυα στὴ θάλασσα. Κι αὐτοί, παρόλο ποὺ εἶχαν κοπιάσει ὅλο τὸ προηγούμενο βράδυ καὶ δὲν εἶχαν πιάσει τίποτα, παραμερίζοντας τὴ λογικὴ καὶ τὴ σωματικὴ κόπωσή τους, ὑπακούνε καὶ τὰ ξαναρίχνουν. Κι ὁ καρπὸς τῆς ὑπακοῆς ποὺ δρέψανε πλουσιώτατος: Ἀπὸ τὰ πολλὰ ψάρια, βυθίζονταν τὰ ψαροκάϊκά τους! Κι ἐκεῖ, πάνω στὸν θαυμασμό καὶ τὴν ἐκπληξή τους, ἀκοῦνε τὴ δευτέρη ἐντολὴ τοῦ Χριστοῦ: «Δεῦτε ὀπίσω μου, καὶ ποιήσω ὑμᾶς ἀλιεῖς ἀνθρώπων». Κι αὐτοὶ αὐτοστιγμεί, ἐγκαταλείποντας, ὄχι μόνο τὰ φρεσκοψαρεμένα ψάρια, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοὺς συγγενεῖς καὶ φίλους, ἀκολουθοῦν μὲ πίστη καὶ πόθο τὸν ἅγιο Διδάσκαλο. Καὶ οἱ ἀγροῖκοι ἐκεῖνοι καὶ ἀπλοῖκοι ψαράδες γίνονται οἱ κορυφαῖοι τῶν ἀποστόλων, θαυματουργοί, ἅγιοι, πάνσοφοι, κήρυκες λαμπροὶ τοῦ θεοῦ λόγου, πραγματικοὶ ψαράδες ἀπίστων ἀνθρώπων ψυχῶν.

Ἡ πρόθυμη ὑπακοὴ καὶ ἡ πίστη στὸν λόγο τοῦ Θεοῦ, μᾶς χορηγεῖ καὶ τὰ ἀγαθὰ τὰ ἀναγκαῖα τῆς παρουσίας ζωῆς, ἀλλὰ καὶ μᾶς ἀξιώνει τῶν αἰωνίων ἀγαθῶν τῆς ἀτελεΐτητος, τῆς αἰωνίας ζωῆς, μὲ τὴ χάρη καὶ φιλανθρωπία τοῦ ἀληθινοῦ καὶ ἀνυπερβλήτου Διδασκάλου καὶ Σωτήρα μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, στὸν ὁποῖο ἀνήκει ἡ δόξα καὶ τὸ κράτος, μαζί μὲ τὸν Πατέρα καὶ τὸ ἅγιο Πνεῦμα, στοὺς αἰῶνες τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν!

<http://poimin.gr>



Κυριακή 29 Σεπτεμβρίου

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Β΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ

Ὡρα 8·30 π.μ. - 11·15 π.μ.

Ὁρθρος καὶ Θεία Λειτουργία



Τρίτη 1η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΠΡΩΤΗ ΗΜΕΡΑ
ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΓΕΥΜΑΤΙΝΟΥ
ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ

Α Β Γ Δ Ε
Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ
Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο
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ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

Monday, September 23:

6:00 p.m. Greek Folk Dance Practice
(8th – 12th Grade & Young Adults)
7:00 p.m. G.O.Y.A.

Tuesday, September 24:

6:30-8:00 p.m. G.O.A.L. 3rd/4th; 5th/6th; 7th/8th
Grade Practices
6:30-8:00 p.m. G.O.A.L. Girls Practice
8:00-9:30 p.m. G.O.A.L. High School Boys Practice

Saturday, September 28:

11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Altar Boy Workshop
(4th grade – 12th grade)

Sunday, September 29:

8:30-11:15 a.m. Orthros and Divine Liturgy

† MEMORIAL †

1 Year Georgia Chionis
2 Years Vasiliki Tsiamas
†May their memory be eternal†

† FUNERAL †

The funeral of *John C. Pappas*
was held on *Monday, September 16.*
† May his memory be eternal †

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP/BAKE SALE

Today's Coffee Fellowship is hosted by the
St. Helen Womens' Philoptochos.
Please join them.

SACRAMENTS

WEDDING

We congratulate the following who have
joined their lives together and we pray
that God grant them many years of Christian
happiness and love!

Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Felicia Roumeliotis & Peter Alfano

Sponsor: Sasha & Christo Karleris

Save the Date

St Helen Womens' Philoptochos
Greek Food and Pastry
And Craft Fair

Saturday October 5: 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sunday October 6: 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

SAVE *the*
DATE

NOVEMBER 9, 2019

THE ODYSSEY VENUE
TINLEY PARK
6pm

Celebrating
110 *Years*

SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Invitation to Follow



See you...

...Next Sunday